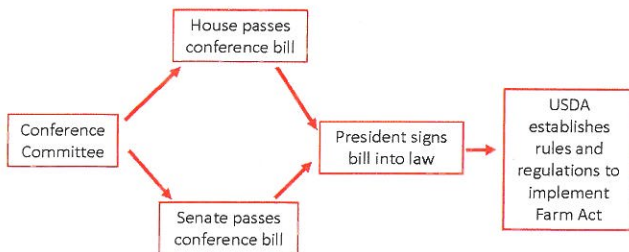


## Farm Act legislative process



## Not all authorized funding is guaranteed...

- **Mandatory (“entitlement”) programs**
  - Ag Committee jurisdiction; multi-year
  - Costs vary with participation levels, market conditions
  - For example: commodity programs, SNAP
- **Discretionary programs**
  - Appropriations Committee jurisdiction; annual
  - No spending above designated level
  - For example: research programs, rural loan programs

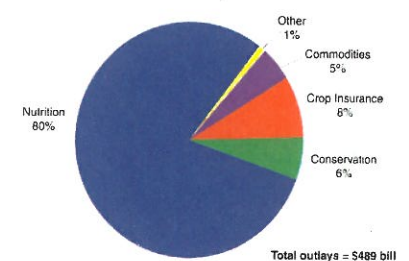
## ...and farm programs can change between Farm Bills

- **To meet needs not covered by existing program**
  - For example: ad hoc assistance; Recovery Act
- **To cut spending**
  - For example: budget reconciliation to reduce deficit
- **When policy opportunities arise**
  - For example: tobacco quota buyout gained votes for tax bill

## 2014 Farm Bill: 12 titles cover a wide range of farm, food, and rural policy areas

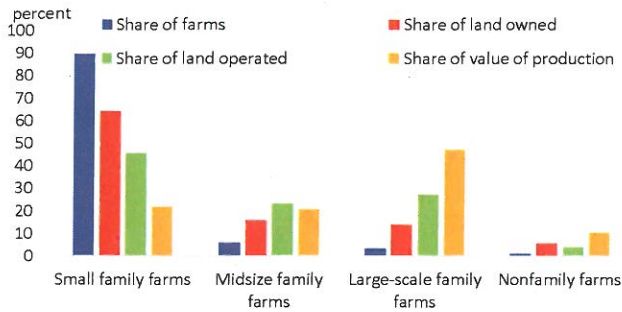
1. Commodities
2. Conservation
3. Trade
4. Nutrition
5. Credit
6. Rural Development
7. Research
8. Forestry
9. Energy
10. Specialty Crops
11. Crop Insurance
12. Miscellaneous

Projected Outlays under the 2014 Farm Act, 2014-2018



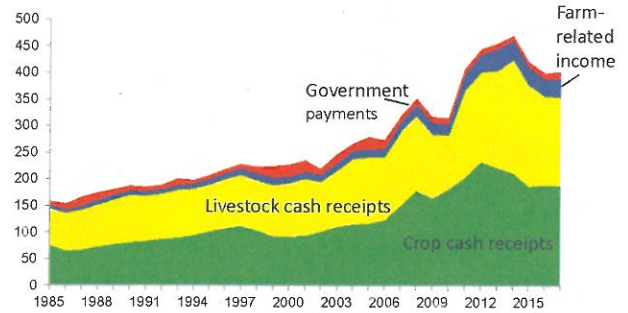
Source: USDA Economic Research Service using data from Congressional Budget Office, Cost Estimates for the Agricultural Act of 2014, Jan 2014

## U.S. farms still family owned, but vary widely by size and role in farm economy



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Economic Research Service, 2014 Agricultural Resource Management Survey.

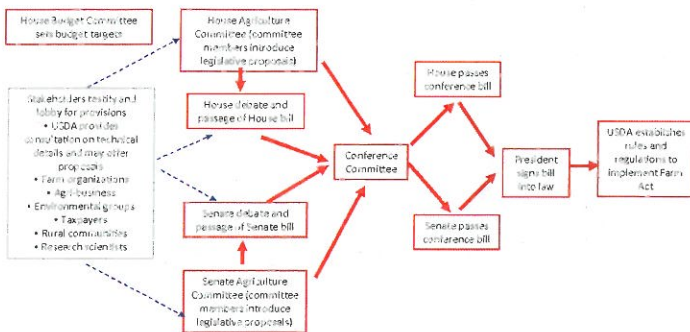
## Government payments make up only a small share of farm gross cash income



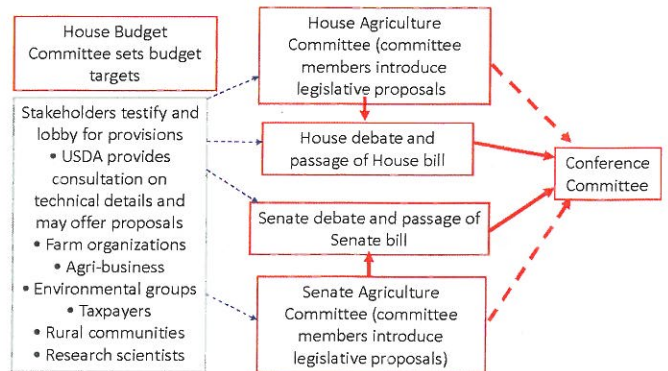
Note: Crop insurance net indemnities included in farm-related income. Source: Farm Income Data, Updated February 2017. Economic Research Service, USDA.

Data: USDA-ERS.

## Farm Bill legislative process



## Farm Bill legislative process



**Thank you!**

[aeffland@oce.usda.gov](mailto:aeffland@oce.usda.gov)  
[www.oce.usda.gov](http://www.oce.usda.gov)

